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SECURITY INFORMATION  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

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[redacted] target practice, apparently involving a number of small and medium guns, was begun on Margoen Island (59°36'N/24°30'E) and within the Soviet prohibited area of Porkkala (59°50'N/24°25'E). The firing appeared to be directed east. No slashes were observed.

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intervals were seen. some black seamarkers with poles moored at irregular

(1) Midway between the two lightvessels, four Soviet minesweepers, apparently former German M-boats, were observed. Two very powerful searchlights, flashing for about one and a half minute, beyond the horizon, were seen on the northern point of Krangel Island (59°39'N/24°58'E).

2. [ ] four small vessels, apparently minesweepers, were observed near Dago Island (59°19'N/22°38'E). Two large seagoing tugs with a steamer of about 10,000 tons in tow were also seen. The vessels came from the south and skirted the coast. The ship in tow was a salvaged wreck, as her hull was red due to rust, and she had neither masts nor funnel. Two steamers of the same size, fully laden, having six hatches and a strikingly high poop, altered course to the south after passing Dago. (2)

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3. [ ] when passing Darg, a PT-boat was observed about six nautical miles from the shore. She was apparently on guard duty and did not move. Her bluish-gray paint was a very effective camouflage. The lightvessel Revalstein (Tallin) (59°04'3"N/24°04'1"E) was not in position on 6 August 1951. A searchlight was seen on the southern point of Porkkala; another searchlight on Hargoen Island quickly flashed four times. [ ] this searchlight was again in operation and sweeping the sea area in an easterly direction. The wind force was 7 or 8 on this day and no warship or patrol vessels were seen. [ ] a [ ] pilot was taken ashore by the Soviets because the ship had passed the island on the wrong side.

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4. [redacted] intensive searchlight activity was observed all along the Estonian coast as far as Dagö Island. Searchlights.

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erected along the coast about 10 to 15 miles apart, swept the sea to their front at short intervals. These searchlights were very powerful and reached far out to sea. (3) Two destroyers proceeding at high speed in line ahead and steering an easterly course were sighted far off [redacted] Dago Island. A surfaced submarine was observed at the mouth of the Gulf of Finland steering an easterly course.

[redacted] a squadron comprising one large two-funnelled warship and four escort destroyers. The squadron proceeding at a speed of 12 to 15 knots steered an easterly course. The destroyers had one funnel each which was slightly inclined toward the stern. (4)

6. [redacted] at the position 59°18'N/22°40'E five warships, apparently destroyers, were sighted about seven nautical miles to the south. These vessels came from Moon Sound (59°05'N/23°00'E). (2) At 5:40 p.m., they altered course for Odensholm (59°18'N/23°22'E). The two funnels stood far apart and raked slightly toward the stern. The forward funnel was located in front of the bridge, the rear funnel was fitted aft of the rear mast and was not as high as the forward one.

7. [redacted] a cruiser [redacted] steaming at 12 knots. The cruiser steered a westerly course coming from the direction of Reval. On reaching position 59°22'N/23°05'E she turned to the opposite course and disappeared in the direction of Hangoen at about 12:30 p.m. The silhouette was clearly visible. The ship has a long raking stem, a slightly raised forecastle and a slightly slanting stern. Her funnels and masts were slightly inclined toward the stern. The deck extended about 20 meters behind the after edge of the rear funnel; the short quarter deck was close to the water. She carried two gun turrets on the forecastle; no other armament could be made out. (5)

8. [redacted] a submarine surfaced at a distance of about 1.5 or 2 nautical miles. She carried a gun on her forecastle. The steamer was observed with binoculars by several persons who stood on the conning tower of the submarine. Five minutes later the submarine slowly submerged. During the previous night, searchlights were in operation all along the north coast of Dago and swept the sea to their front at short intervals.

#### Comments.

- (1) The soundings in this sea area vary between 40 and 60 meters. During the war, extensive fields of moored mines had been laid in this region.
- (2) These ships obviously entered Moon Sound. [redacted] Moon Sound was deepened to allow the passage of vessels with a deep draught.
- (3) It is believed that the sea area is swept at irregular intervals to prevent people landing or escaping.
- (4) This was probably a destroyer cruising in company with four torpedo boats.
- (5) This vessel probably was a destroyer or a large torpedo boat.

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